

GARRETT COUNTY GOVERNMENT – March 2012
By the Board of County Commissioners “Board”

Adventure Sports Center International

1. General discussion on the operations and management of ASCI. The Board determined to schedule a Press Conference for Tuesday March 27, 2012 at which time the Board will take official action and announce the terms of this transfer of assets, operations, and facilities.
2. The Board authorized the expenditure of \$600,000 to secure the assignment of ASCI debt owed to Susquehanna Bank and agreement to proceed with a transitional plan for the County to assume operational management of ASCI. The financial obligations of ASCI to the County will be satisfied from hotel/motel accommodations tax revenue which is restricted and designated by State statute for economic development and the promotion of tourism. No County real property tax revenue will be directed to satisfy this obligation. There have been questions by the Board appropriating additional funds to the GC Public School System relative to the 5-Year Plan proposed by the Board of Education. Hotel/motel accommodations tax revenue cannot be directed to the GC Public School System.
3. Public commentary was received and considered. Official press releases/statements were distributed and the Board of County Commissioners addressed questions and commentary from persons and media in attendance for this session.

Garrett County Chamber of Commerce

1. Update on marketing and visitor marketing tools used in the promotion of GC.
2. Review of accommodation sales (hotel rental tax) collected 2002 to 2012.
3. Presentation of television promotional campaign commercials
4. Update on Mountain Maryland Gateway to the West Heritage Area Plan
5. Discussion on funding of the Events Coordinator. The Board had previously approved funding of \$20,000 to serve as a cost share with the Chamber. It was the consensus of the Board and the Chamber to place the employment of acceptance of an independent contractor on hold with final decision to be made as part of the FY 2103 Budget. There will be further discussions and deliberations on this subject.
6. Discussion on cleaning and custodial services for the Visitor's Center.

Department of Economic Development

1. The Board announced the sale of a County-owned 30,000 square foot building at the Southern Garrett Business & Technology Park to a local business. GCC Technologies, LLC (GCC) has purchased the 30,000-square foot building originally constructed by the Maryland Economic Development Corporation (MEDCO) with funding provided by the Maryland Department of Business & Economic Development (DBED). The County purchased the building from MEDCO in December 2011 for \$1,150,000 and sold the building to GCC for this amount.
2. The Board executed a Community Facilities Grant Agreement with the US Department of Agriculture Rural Housing Service – ARC for road improvements to the Exhibit and Trade Center. Amount of the grant is \$350,000.
3. Execution of a Resolution authorizing the sale of 1.50 acres adjacent to County property on Francis Sanders Lane to Ronald J. Harvey for the sum of \$12,000.

Garrett County Board of Elections

1. Update of County Commissioner Districts after the 2010 Census.
2. Update on 2012 Primary and General Election.

Department of Financial Services

1. The Board executed a Resolution hereby setting the date and time of the County tax Sale to be held on Friday, May 4, 2012, at 10:00 AM held in the Board of Garrett Commissioners Public Meeting Room.
2. The Board approved a real estate tax credit for: Avilton Community Association, Community Action Committee properties, and Backbone Housing.
3. The Board reviewed the State of Maryland Department of Assessment and Taxation Office lease in the GC Court House.
4. The Board discuss an Identity Theft Prevention Program.
5. FY 2013 Budget review schedule and dates.
6. Revenue Estimation and Real Tax Rate.
7. Scheduling constant yield hearing and public budget presentations for May 15 at Garrett College at 7:00 PM.
8. Board of Education Appropriation for FY 2013.
9. The GC Arts Council presented their FY 2013 Budget to the Board.

Department of Planning & Land Development

The Board met in an *Emergency* Administrative Session called for a required discussion. The purpose of this session was to review and approve additional funding for the Scope of Work - Deep Creek Lake Sediment Study Phase II.

Department of Public Safety & Emergency Management

The Board discussed issues relative to the Length of Service Awards Program and fire and rescues personnel training under the MD Fire and Rescue Institute.

Department of Public Utilities (DPU)

Presentation of a contract amendment for design and construction for the Thayerville Water System Project. The Board approved the contract amendment as presented. Copy of the contract amendment is on file with the DPU for review.

Roads Department

The Board reviewed a request for execution of a Resolution that reads “the Board of GC Commissioners will work in partnership with the North South Appalachian Highway Coalition to advocate the completion of the North South Appalachian Highway”. Previous Boards of County Commissioners had executed such a Resolution and this Resolution would reflect the current Board. The Boards of County Commissioners of Allegany County, MD and Somerset County, PA executed a similar Resolution. The Board executed the Resolution on this date.

Sheriff's Department

1. Discussion on amending current policy to allow for the payment of all calendar year County holidays to be paid to non-exempt public safety employees in a onetime payment.
2. A request to revise the Law Enforcement – Public Safety Grade Allocation Table to reflect consistent percentage increments between all pay steps within all pay grades and consistent with other County Government Grade Allocation Tables.
3. A request to allow law enforcement officers enrolled in the Law Enforcement Officers Pension Plan to be eligible for the employer match in the County Government Deferred Compensation Program. In 2002 when the Law Enforcement Officers Pension Plan was approved, this match was discontinued.

Miscellaneous

1. The Board appointed Bill Aiken (landowner) and James Stanton (environmentalist) to the County Commissioners Marcellus Shale Advisory Commission.
2. Heather Hanline updated the Board of County Commissioners on the following Dove Center issues: update on shelter statistics and activity; and Public awareness campaign and education review.
3. Funding for Meadow Mountain Trail Improvements and Extension Phase I Project. The Meadow Mountain Trail Improvements and Extension Phase I Project will create an approximately 10-mile trail from New Germany Road to Route 495.
4. The Board approved an appropriation of \$500 to the Town of Kitzmiller for their 2012 Annual Homecoming Festival.
5. The Board reappointed Donald Stemple to the Garrett County Civil Service Commission.
6. The Board recognized Austin Shaffer from Southern Garrett High School as the 2012 State Wrestling Champion.
7. The Board executed a Proclamation “Celebrating 100 Year – Girl Scouts of the United States of America”.
8. The Board executed a Proclamation noting April 2012 as “Month of the Young Child”.
9. Richard MacLennan, President, Garrett College and staff presented an update on the GC Scholarship Program.
10. The Board approved an award to Winters General Contractor, Inc. for \$46,950.00 for Garrett County Airport Parking Area Expansion.